

CoNect
449 South 90th Street
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CoNect Direct

April, 1993

VolE, Ed I

This little introductory paragraph is getting harder and harder to write. It seems the last few months it's been just a listing of who's closing up! This month is no exception - the rumor mill has it that the May issue of Rainbow is the last. The news isn't really a great shock, since the magazine has been preparing to close down for the last year. But it's still depressing.

We are planning on publishing a master list of the CoCo related publications currently available, with the first installment printed below. If you know of a CoCo related publication not listed, please send information to CoNect, and we will publish it in a future edition of this newsletter. Since I can't personally subscribe to all of these publications, a short description of content, etc would be helpful.

Sources:

The following list is limited to publications that are actually shipping, or not yet released.

CoCo Friends Disk Magazine: A bi-monthly disk magazine for the Disk Basic user. One side of the floppy is articles, reviews, letters, etc. The other side is programs. and tends to run a full as it can possibly be packed!

Year Subscription: \$30 (US), foreign prices not available at press time
Rick's Computer Enterprise, P.O. Box 878, Liberty KY 40339

MOTD: This bi-monthly is the official publication of the OS9 User's Group. To get it, join the OS9UG! Membership gives you access to their extensive software library, as well as other goodies from time to time.

Yearly Dues: \$25 (US)
OS9 Users Group, P.O. Box 71131, Des Moines Iowa 50325

Nine Times: BiMonthly disk magazine for the OS9 user. Programs, help columns, hints, etc.

Year subscription: \$34.95 (US), \$35.95 (Canadian), \$42.95 (World)
JMT Enterprises, 5755 Lockwood Blvd Youngstown OH 44512

Uptime: This monthly newsletter mainly features advertisements! Who would have thought lots of ads could be a 'feature'? But nowadays it's hard to find ads! Editorial content has been going up recently, also.

Year Subscription: 2 installments of \$7.50 (US), \$9.00 (Canadian), or \$11.00 (World)
JMT Enterprises, 5755 Lockwood Blvd Youngstown OH 44512

The world of 68 micros: This is a new magazine, with the first issue planned for August of this year. Published every six weeks (8 issues/year). Covers both DECB and OS9.

Year Subscription: \$23 (US), foreign prices not available at press time
FARNA Systems, 904 End Ave Warner Robins GA 31098

Powering Up:

One of the more popular home-brew modifications to the CoCo has been installing it in an IBM case. This mod is becoming even more popular as Tandy disk drive cases become harder to find- often an entire AT clone case can be bought for the price of a single bay external drive case!

The first step of the procedure is fairly straightforward- fitting the motherboard into the box and running extensions of all the motherboard connections to the back panel requires a bit of soldering, but no special talent for curcuitry.

The next step is getting the buss adapter of your choice in there. Y cables are no problem, since they can be twisted and turned until everything fits. Happily, the XPander is easy to fit as well, since it grows vertically, rather than farther to the right. The MultiPak and SlotPak will require a little more work- usually a short ribbon cable with suitable connectors is used to allow cramming the mpi in over the motherboard. The slotpak, by virtue of being smaller, is a bit easier to fit, but still requires the ribbon cable to 'bend' the buss.

Which brings us to the main work of repackaging a CoCo- hooking it all up to the PC style power supply. To do this, the built in supplies have to be disabled, as outlined below.

The CoCo Motherboard:

- 1) Remove Q1. This is the main 5v regulator with the big black heatsink.
- 2) Connect +12v to the cathode (not banded) end of D2 and the anode (banded) end of D14.
- 3) Connect -12v to the cathode (not banded) end of D4.
- 4) Connect +5v to the end of R19 closest to Q1.
- 5) Connect GND to motherboard gnd. A good spot is one of the 2 large silver pads where the copper clips formerly extended up to meet the CoCo keyboard.

MultiPak:

- 1) Remove IC9 (front left side of mpi board).
- 2) Remove R7 (front right side of mpi board near slot switch).
- 3) Connect +5v to the circle labeled +5v TP1 (to the right of slot 1).
- 4) Connect +12v to the circle labeled TP2 +12v (to the right of slot 2).
- 5) Connect -12v to the circle labeled -12v TP3 (in front of slot 1, the banded end of D1).
- 6) Connect GND to one of the many ground pads (the large light green area covering half of the top of the mpi board is a ground plane, pick any handy point).
- 7) Leave to power switch turned OFF, or remove it completely.
- 8) Put the slot selector at slot four.

XPander:

The XPander has no on board power supply. To eliminate the external power pak, make up a cable with a 1/8 inch 3 conductor (stereo) male phono plug. This is the same plug you'll find on a pair of 'Walkman' type headphones. Connect +12v to the tip (center). Connect -12v to the ring (the other small connection, just outside tip), and GND to the barrel (long post that also serves as strain relief for the cable).

Hope to see all of you at the 'Fest!

-Ricku

Color Computer Hardware

CoNect Mini RS232 Port: Don't let the name fool you! This is a full featured serial port, supporting the signals needed for flow control as well as the basic 4 Jumper blocks allow readdressing, or swapping DSR/DCD. No custom cables or hardware widgets needed here! **Only \$49.95** (v cable systems require power supply, add \$9.95)

CoNect Y Box: Anyone whos owned a CoCo for more than a few days knows how touchy it's expansion buss can be. Although Y cables do allow low buget buss expansion, the average hunk of ribbon cable with a few connectors on it doesn't help reliability any. Enter the Y Box! Helps support add on packs, without resting on desktop itself. Powered version can supply +/-12volts to those Paks that can't live without!

The Y Box \$29.95

Power Y \$39.95

CoNect XPander: Don't you think the CoCo would be alot nicer without all that mess hanging off the right side? Of course it would! Our XPander allows mounting two /SCS driven devices (like a floppy and hard drive controller) inside your CoCo, as well as a fully decoded card into the ROMPort. Or, you can configure the ROMPort to disable the internal hardware, and run ROMs. Built in no-slot RS232 Port is similar to our 'Mini'-described above. The CoCo does have to be reassembled into a new lower case half, but there is no soldering required to get the XPander up and running. **Now Only \$119.95**

CoNect Custom Cables: If you don't see the cable you need, just ask!

RS232- Six feet in length. Select from the following options:

CPUside: DB25, DB9, CoCo 4 pin 'bitbanger'

Modemside: DB25 or DB9

Inside: normal, null modem, DCD/DSR swap

Any Style \$9.95

Disk Drive Power Converter- specify size of connectors needed **\$5.95**

Hitachification: CoNect will install a Hitachi 6309 cpu (and socket) into your CoCo3 Machine must be in working condition! The 6809 is returned as spare or ???
90 day limited warranty **Strip and Installation Only \$29.95**

Color Computer Hardware

Color Computer Three: Brand new, in the box 128K CoCo's, with the manuals and even that dumb little TV/Game switch! **Only a few left at \$99.95**

RS Color Mouse: The 'official' little black mouse with the big red button. Not a bad piece of hardware, actually- except for the missing second fire button. Works with anyones hi-res interface, or straight into the CoCo. **New \$12.95**

Tandy DMP105 Printer: Long lived 9 pin dot matrix 'draft' quality printer. This unit looks to have a few years left! **Last One \$64.95**

Tandy Joysticks: A pair of cheap full-floating joysticks at a cheap price. Single fire button. Suitable for most apps, some games. **Pair for \$3.95**

Tandy Orchestra-90cc: Good sounding four voice stereo synth with additional percussion voice. (The drums are at best fair) If this pak understood Midi, it would cost \$100! **New \$14.95 Used \$9.95**

Tandy Speech/Sound: No manuals on these used Speech Paks, but they all work fine on a CoCo3. **Used \$24.95**

Orphan²: Used Hardware that needs a home!

ModemPort: Marty's ModemPak to RS232 Conversion. 2400bps or slower. **\$24.95**

ModemPak: A Tandy ModemPak without ROM. Runs any software, even OS9. LV12 stuff, through the built in 300 baud modem (requires at least a Y cable). **\$24.95**

FD500 Drive Case/PS: Perfectly usable full height floppy case and power supply, with data/power cables for 2 half height drives. Definately not sexy! Case is made to stand vertically, but I won't tell if you lay it on it's side:-) **\$34.95**

MC10 Ram Upgrade: 16K by 8 static RAM, all in a neat little box. **\$9.95**

Cassette Interface: For the PCx 'pocket computers'. New in box. **\$14.95**

Disk Extended Color Basic

Games

Dallas Quest: JR and they gang still live in this disk based graphic adventure from DataSoft. No color on RGB systems.	Used	\$9.95
FlightSim1: The ancient CoCo2 'night flight' simulator.	Used	\$3.95
Ghanabwana: Early Steve Bjork arcade game. RGB patch.	New	\$4.95
One on One: Who says Larry Bird is gone? Not a Bird fan? OK, meet Dr. J! 2 player or challenge the CoCo. RGB patch.	New	\$8.95
Pitfall 2: Fairly challenging dodge the meanies maze game from Activision. RGB color patch.	Used	\$4.95
Radio Ball: An exceptional pinball simulation- unfortunately b&w on an rgb monitor. This tape game includes a copy on disk for those who no longer have a cassette recorder.	Used	\$9.95
Sands of Egypt: Graphic adventure from DataSoft. Difficult for beginning mapmakers- expect to wander thought the desert a bit! B&W on rgb.	Used	\$9.95
Shamus: A shoot the badguys maze game. B&W on rgb.	Used	\$6.95

Applications

Color Profile: Disk based CoCo2 database program.	Used	\$19.95
Disk EDTASM: 6809 assembler/editor/debug. 800ol patch.	Used	\$22.95
Graphicom: CoCo2 drawing program from Chesire Cat Software.	Used	\$9.95
Investograph: Investment analysis for the CoCo2. Can download data directly from CompuServ or Dow Jones.	Used	\$8.95
Max-10: ColorWare's excellent followup to CoCoMax! Beautiful WYSIWYG word processor. Later version, can use Tandy HiRes. Only 1 in stock!	Used	\$22.95
Disk Spectaculator: Disk based (32 column screen) spreadsheet from the 'Shack. 99 rows and 99 columns.	Used	\$12.95
Telewriter 64: Still the ultimate CoCo2 word processor.	Used	\$16.95

RomPaks

Arkanoïd: Breakout type 'smash the wall' game from Taito. Separate versions for CoCo2 or 3 in the SAME RomPak!	New	\$5.95
Castle of Tharrogad: Update of the old Dungeons of Daggorith game for the CoCo3. Mouse control, saves game without cassette!	Used	\$4.95
Color File 2: Tape based CoCo filing system.	New	\$3.95
Color Scripsit 2: Tape based word processor for CoCo2 or 3. 38x24 display on the CoCo3!	New	\$4.95
Diagnostics: Old CoCo2 diagnostic rom.	New	\$2.99
Downland: Addictive vertical maze. CC2 and CC3 versions.	New	\$6.95
Dungeons of Daggorith: A CoCo classic! Basically a room maze with added complications, like meanies and torches that keep going out. Games save to tape.	New	\$6.95
GFL Football: Single player football game with unique players. POV window, as well as the traditional overhead. Many teams of various abilities to choose from. Some of them can really challenge your coaching skills!	New	\$4.95
Malcom Mortar: Fairly clever CoCo3 maze game.	Used	\$4.95
Poltargetist: "They're here"	Used	\$3.95
Predator: Just because it bleeds dont mean you can kill it.	Used	\$6.95
Rad Warrior: Vertical maze with meanies. Nicer than most.	New	\$6.95
Shanghai: Mah Jongg on the CoCo3! Very addictive!	New	\$6.95
Springster: A stacked blocks maze with bad guys and goodies.	Used	\$6.95
Super Pitfall: Update of the old Pitfall2 disk game.	Used	\$6.95
Tetris: Everybody knows what Tetris is!	Used	\$9.95
Thexder: 'Old fashioned' Nintendo style shoot 'em up.	New	\$4.95

OS9

Level One: DOS and assembler for CoCo1 or 2	<i>New</i>	\$34.95
Level One v1.1: Upgrade to Level 1 (Lv11 required)	<i>Used</i>	\$4.95
SDisk: Replacement for ccdisk 40/80 track,s/d density,etc	<i>Used</i>	\$4.95
Level Two: DOS and Basic09 for the CoCo3	<i>New</i>	\$39.95
MultiVue: GUI for Level 2 systems Includes the Windint module (replacement for stock grfont and required by some programs)	<i>New</i>	\$22.95
DevPak: Completes Level Two RMA assembler, tsmom, scrod, more	<i>Used</i>	\$39.95
PatchOS9: Every public domain patch I could find, and a nifty auto-install program (auto requires 2 ds disk drives, request ss disks if needed)	<i>New</i>	\$3.95
Basic09: Why did they leave Basic out of the Level 1 package?	<i>Used</i>	\$14.95
C compiler: Got a few more, but call CoNect anyway (evenings and weekends) to reserve one They'll vanish fast	<i>Used</i>	\$59.95
D.L. Logo: Excellent learning language. It even talks!(S/S support)	<i>Used</i>	\$19.95
Pascal: ISO Standard 7185.1 Level10 compiler.	<i>Used</i>	\$39.95

OS9 Applications

Color Computer Artist: Window based graphics program can output OS9 window format files- just merge into window for instant graphics! Nice mouse/monitor setup utility included	<i>New</i>	\$5.95
DeskMate: CoCo2 Calendar, Text Editor, Index Cards, Paint, Ledger, and Telecom. No XModem mode, however.	<i>New</i>	\$12.95
DynaCalc: Best spreadsheet available for CoCo/OS9 80 col in Lv12. Many cell format options Sorts Windows. Sticky titles Trig.Lookup tables. More!	<i>New</i>	\$34.95
Home Publisher: Desktop publishing for the CC3. Could be faster, but worth 12 bucks.	<i>New</i>	\$11.95
Phantomgraph: Tons of ways to see numbers! Line, bar, pie, and scatter Explode, stack, or color 'em in! Can import Dynacalc or Syk files	<i>New</i>	\$19.95
Profile: Pretty good database from the folks who made Dynacalc	<i>Used</i>	\$19.95
Screen Dump Utility: Dumps Lv11 screens to printer.	<i>Used</i>	\$4.95
T/S Edit: Full screen text editor Both OS9 and DECB included.	<i>Used</i>	\$9.95
T/S Spell: Use with any OS9 text editor 100K word dictionary	<i>Used</i>	\$9.95

OS9 Games

Cave Walker: This vertical maze game comes with a Level1 boot, but can be used under your Level12! The gfx get better, and become rgb compatible	<i>Used</i>	\$9.95
Flight Simulator 2: Very impressive simulation from Sublogic This is the same as the MicroSoft Flight Simulator available for IBM- clouds, wind, radio navigation, even mechanical failures of the aircraft are emulated	<i>Used</i>	\$12.95
Interbank Incident: Mouse driven CoCo2 adventure runs on CoCo3, but loses color It even speaks (with S/S Pak)	<i>New</i>	\$12.95
King's Quest 3: The ultimate CoCo3 adventure from Sierra. The graphics have to be seen to be believed!	<i>New</i>	\$17.95
Koronis Rift: Arcade/Adventure game for CoCo3 You'll need those lightning fast reflexes and your brain to finish this one!	<i>New</i>	\$7.95
Microscopic Mission: Save the patient while battling the deadliest enemy of all, the human body! But watch out, you might learn some anatomy	<i>New</i>	\$9.95
Rescue on Fractalus: Shoot the bad guys. Save the good guys Enjoy the graphics.	<i>New</i>	\$7.95
Rogue: This maze adventure has been around for ages! Originally a text game, it depends on interesting play, instead of flashy graphics This release runs either the original text version, or an icon based gfx version that eases play	<i>New</i>	\$8.95
Sub Battle Simulator: A thorough simulation of American or German WW2 era submarines	<i>New</i>	\$10.95
Zone Runner: Adventure in interstellar commerce	<i>New</i>	\$6.95

School's In!

Alphabet Zoo: Teaches children 3-8 letter recognition and spelling. From Spinnaker Software.

New \$7.95

Color Math: Tape based arithmetic drill, covering the basic 4. Copy on disk saves dragging out the old tape recorder.

New \$4.95

D.L. Logo: Good introduction language to computer programming. From simple turtle graphics to fairly complex math and logic structures.

Used \$19.95

Donald Duck's Playground: This Disney Learning game teaches logical thinking, matching skills, and money changing. Ages 7 to 11.

New \$9.95

Hands On: This package from Childrens Television Workshop includes a simple word processor and drawing program. Your child can save his work, or share it with others.

New \$7.95

Kidwriter: Kids 6-10 make up a picture, then write a story to match. Introduces word processing while encouraging creativity. From Spinnaker.

New \$7.95

Mickey's Space Adventure: Teaches mapping, problem solving, and planetary science the Disney way. For ages 8 and up.

New \$9.95

Microscopic Mission: Introduction to almost every medical speciality you can think of- from microbiology to lifestyles as disease prevention. CC3.

New \$9.95

Rocky's Boots: Teaches the fundamental concepts of computers and digital logic. Widely acclaimed program from the Learning Company, for ages 9 and up.

Used \$9.95

Success with Math: This package is geared towards high school algebra students. Two self paced tutorials cover linear and quadratic equations.

New \$9.95

Telling Time with Donald: This tape based Disney game teaches children 5-8 how to tell time.

Used \$4.95

Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?: This has to be the most enjoyable geography lesson I've ever seen!

New \$9.95

Winnie the Pooh in the Hundred Acre Wood: Teaches map reading and logical thinking. Ages 7 and up.

New \$9.95

Bookshelf

Basic09 Tour Guide: If you are interested in learning Basic09, this is the book for you! By Dale Puckett.

New \$9.95

Beginner's Guide to Windows: Covering the Level Two windowing system, graphics, and usage with Basic09. The first (and only) of a promised two volume set from Messrs Plucket and Dribble stands alone nicely.

New \$5.95

Color Computer Assembly Language Programming: The Bill Barden classic covers the 6809 and interfacing to the DECB rom. Predates the CoCo3, but still an excellent primer to CoCo assy.

New \$5.95

Programming the 6809: This book by Rodney Zaks and William Labiak comes highly recommended.

Used \$5.95

Tape

Bedlam: You're in, and you want to get out of this nutty place!

Used \$4.95

Madness and the Minotaur: Search for treasure.

Used \$4.95

Pooyan: Arcade. Save yer piglets from the big bad wolf.

Used \$4.95

Pyramid 2000: Slightly reworked version of "Original Adventure".

Used \$4.95

Rakki-Tu: Venture into the temple of a lost civilization.

Used \$4.95

Radio Ball: An exceptional pinball simulation! B&W on rgb.

Used \$7.95

About CoNect

The trend is growing! CoCo suppliers are dropping faster than support from Radio Shack. Most of the ones left carry only a few items, with occasional lots of surplus goods sold at blowout prices.

Like most remaining vendors, CoNect has a few items we manufacture, and while they provide most of our income, we want to do something more for the community. To this end, we attempt to stock everything. Every dollar CoNect takes in (and a few more) goes into purchase of formerly common items like CoCo's, disk controllers, software, and other CoCo-specific goods.

Our pricing reflects our determination to remain in the market. If you find somebody blowing out DynaCalc's for \$5, by all means buy one. But rest assured that long after those 2 dozen units are gone, CoNect will still be selling them, as well as replacement CoCo's and ports and mice and.....

Ordering Info:

Our mailing address is

CoNect
449 South 90th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Or call (414) 258-2989 evenings and weekends. Else, leave EMail on Delphi (RICKULAND) or Internet (rickuland@delphi.com)

We accept personal checks or money orders. Sorry, no plastic yet. All orders please include \$4.00 shipping and handling. Larger items will have the additional shipping cost included in the price!

Legal Stuff:

All hardware manufactured by CoNect carries a 90 day limited warranty. Used hardware has been tested, unfortunately, we can't guarantee anything more than it will work when you receive it.

Software that doesn't boot will be repaired or replaced at our option. What this means is, anything we have (or can get) more of will be replaced with a new copy. Used or surplus software will be restored from our master copy.

Wanted, Dead or Alive!

CoNect is interested in buying your old Color Computer or 'KMA' (TC70, MM/I, SystemIV) hardware or software, working or not. Software must include the original disk, even if it doesn't boot. In fact, we often don't care if you even have a working copy! We are after that original disk, manual, and license:-)

We are also interested in your original software packages or hardware designs. CoNect can assist in production, and pays competitive royalties for each unit sold.